

# WHAT YOU NEED TO know.

The Hawai'i Smoke-Free Law becomes effective November 16, 2006, The American Cancer Society's Great American Smokeout. The following rules and exceptions provide an overview of the law. Please call or consult the website for details specific to your business.

## *The new rules:*

- 1) **No smoking in enclosed public spaces.** Examples include bars, restaurants, clubs, airports, theaters, government facilities, and stadiums. Indoors or outdoors, if the space is at least partially enclosed by walls, smoking is prohibited.
- 2) **No smoking in places of employment.** This means anywhere someone works, including all offices, and also private homes that double as businesses.
- 3) **No smoking within 20 feet of doorways, windows, and ventilation intakes of the above areas.**

## *A few exceptions:*

- 1) Hotels may reserve 20% of their rooms for smokers, as long as those rooms are clustered on the same floor and the smoke doesn't circulate to the other rooms.
- 2) Long-term care facilities may allow smoking in private rooms, at the written request of the occupant.
- 3) Smoking is allowed in fully open-air workplaces, such as parks, outdoor construction sites, and beach stands.



POSTAGE  
STAMP

Coalition for a Tobacco-Free Hawai'i  
1500 South Beretania, Suite 309  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96826  
808 216 6844 Phone • 808 216 6700 Fax

# live, WORK, breathe.

## *The Hawai'i Smoke-Free Law: A Guide for Businesses*



In 2006, Hawai'i became the 14th state to pass a law protecting us from the significant health risks of second-hand smoke. If you operate a business in Hawai'i, you need to understand the law and comply with it. This brochure will answer most of your questions. For more information, visit [www.HawaiiSmokeFree.com](http://www.HawaiiSmokeFree.com) or call 211, the Aloha United Way helpline. You may read the entire law at [www.HawaiiSmokeFree.com](http://www.HawaiiSmokeFree.com).

## PROTECTION FOR EVERYONE WHO breathes.

### *A Benefit, not a Ban.*

The law's purpose is not to ban smoking or to force smokers to quit. It doesn't limit the sale of tobacco products or their use in private. The law's purpose is to defend the right of workers, customers, and the general public to breathe smoke-free air. It's a simple matter of health and fairness.

### *Secondhand Smoke: It's no Joke.*

You don't have to put a cigarette in your mouth to suffer the consequences of smoking. The smoke that comes off a burning cigarette, cigar, or pipe, and the smoke exhaled by the person smoking, contains all the same deadly poisons as smoke directly inhaled: 250 toxins in all, including at least 50 cancer-causing substances. Need proof? 53,800 nonsmokers die of smoking-related illnesses every year in the U.S.



## WHAT YOU NEED TO do.

*Owners, managers, and operators of all businesses in Hawai'i are responsible for complying with the new law. It's easy. Here's what you have to do:*

- 1) Post a sign.** It must read "Smoking prohibited by law" or show the international "No Smoking" symbol.
- 2) Educate your employees.** This brochure should take care of the heavy lifting. Just pass it around.
- 3) Inform violators.** If someone lights up in a no-smoking area, politely request that they put it out or that they go outside and away from the building to smoke. Call the police only if a violator becomes threatening or belligerent.

Businesses that don't comply with the law may be fined \$100 for a first offense, \$200 for a second offense, and up to \$500 for subsequent violations. Also, the business risks having operating licenses and permits revoked by the state.



## ANY questions?

### \* SHOULD I PROVIDE A SMOKING BREAK ROOM FOR EMPLOYEES?

No. In fact, the law doesn't allow it.

### \* CAN PEOPLE SMOKE IN PRIVATE OFFICES?

No. Private offices are part of your workplace, and smoking is prohibited throughout the workplace.

### \* HOW DO I FILE A COMPLAINT?

You have three options:

- 1) File online at [www.HawaiiSmokeFree.com](http://www.HawaiiSmokeFree.com)
- 2) Write a letter to the Department of Health Tobacco Prevention and Education Program, 1250 Punchbowl Street, Room 217, Honolulu, HI 96813
- 3) Call the Aloha United Way helpline: 211. Ask to file a complaint over the phone, or request a form be sent to your address.

### \* ARE RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO HELP BUSINESSES EDUCATE EMPLOYEES OR INFORM CUSTOMERS?

Yes. Call the Aloha United Way Helpline at 211, contact the Department of Health at 586-4613, or visit [www.HawaiiSmokeFree.com](http://www.HawaiiSmokeFree.com)

### \* MY PLACE OF BUSINESS ISN'T COVERED BY THE NEW LAW. IS THERE ANYTHING I CAN DO?

Yes. If you own or operate a business or a public space—even one that's outdoors—you have the right to prohibit smoking simply by posting a sign.

### \* HOW WILL THIS LAW AFFECT BUSINESS?

Studies of other parts of the country with similar laws indicate that the laws have a neutral or even a positive impact on business. Other studies show that in smoke-free workplaces, employee productivity increases and facility maintenance costs decline.

### \* I WANT TO QUIT SMOKING. ADVICE?

Call the Hawai'i Tobacco Quitline at 1-800-QUIT-NOW (1-800-784-8669).

